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The word "label" when used herein refers to a detectable compound or composition which is conjugated directly or indirectly to the antibody so as to generate a "labeled" antibody. The label may be detectable by itself (e.g. radioisotope labels or fluorescent labels) or, in the case of an enzymatic label, may catalyze chemical alteration of a substrate compound or composition which is detectable.

By "solid phase" is meant a non-aqueous matrix to which the antibody of the present invention can adhere. Examples of solid phases encompassed herein include those formed partially or entirely of glass (e.g., controlled pore glass), polysaccharides (e.g., agarose), polyacrylamides, polystyrene, polyvinyl alcohol and silicones. In certain embodiments, depending on the context, the solid phase can comprise the well of an assay plate; in others it is a purification column (e.g., an affinity chromatography column). This term also includes a discontinuous solid phase of discrete particles, such as those described in U.S. Patent No. 4,275,149.

A "liposome" is a small vesicle composed of various types of lipids, phospholipids and/or surfactant which is useful for delivery of a drug (such as a PRO polypeptide or antibody thereto) to a mammal. The components of the liposome are commonly arranged in a bilayer formation, similar to the lipid arrangement of biological membranes.

A "small molecule" is defined herein to have a molecular weight below about 500 Daltons.

As used herein, "vascular endothelial cell growth factor-E," or "VEGF-E," refers to a mammalian growth factor as described herein, including the human amino acid sequence of Figure 207, a sequence which has homology to VEGF and bone morphogenetic protein 1 and which includes complete conservation of all VEGF cysteine residues, which have been shown to be required for biological activity of VEGF. VEGF-E expression includes expression in human fetal bone, thymus, and the gastrointestinal tract. The biological activity of native VEGF-E is shared by any analogue or variant thereof that is capable of promoting selective growth and/or survival of umbilical vein endothelial cells, induces proliferation of pluripotent fibroblast cells, induces immediate early gene c-fos in human endothelial cell lines and causes myocyte hypertrophy in cardiac cells, or which possesses an immune epitope that is immunologically cross-reactive with an antibody raised against at least one epitope of the corresponding native VEGF-E. The human VEGF-E herein is active on rat and mouse cells indicating conservation across species. Moreover, the VEGF-E herein is expressed at the growth plate region and has been shown to embrace fetal myocytes.

As used herein, "vascular endothelial cell growth factor," or "VEGF," refers to a mammalian growth factor as defined in U.S. Patent 5,332,671. The biological activity of native VEGF is shared by any analogue or variant thereof that is capable of promoting selective growth of vascular endothelial cells but not of bovine corneal endothelial cells, lens epithelial cells, adrenal cortex cells, BHK-21 fibroblasts, or keratinocytes, or that possesses an immune epitope that is immunologically cross-reactive with an antibody raised against at least one epitope of the corresponding native VEGF.

The terms "VEGF-E polypeptide" and "VEGF-E" when used herein encompass native sequence VEGF-E polypeptide and VEGF-E polypeptide variants (which are further defined herein). The VEGF-E polypeptides may be isolated from a variety of sources, such as from human tissue types or from another source, or prepared by recombinant or synthetic methods.

Inhibitors of VEGF-E include those which reduce or inhibit the activity or expression of VEGF-E and includes antisense molecules.

The abbreviation "KDR" refers to the kinase domain region of the VEGF molecule. VEGF-E has no homology with VEGF in this domain.

The abbreviation "FLT-1" refers to the FMS-like tyrosine kinase binding domain which is known to bind to the corresponding FLT-1 receptor. VEGF-E has no homology with VEGF in this domain.

"Toll receptor2", "TLR2" and "huTLR2" are used interchangeably, and refer to a human Toll receptor designated as "huTLR2" by Rock *et al.*, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA **95**, 588-593 (1998).

The term "lipopolysaccharide" or "LPS" is used herein as a synonym of "endotoxin." Lipopolysaccharides (LPS) are characteristic components of the outer membrane of Gram-negative bacteria, e.g., *Escherichia coli*. They consist of a polysaccharide part and a fat called lipid A. The polysaccharide, which varies from one bacterial species to another, is made up of the O-specific chain (built from repeating units of three to eight sugars) and the two-part core. Lipid A virtually always includes two glucosamine sugars modified by phosphate and a variable number of fatty acids. For further information see, for example, Rietschel and Brade, Scientific American August 1992, 54-61.

The term "septic shock" is used herein in the broadest sense, including all definitions disclosed in Bone, Ann. Intern Med. **114**, 332-333 (1991). Specifically, septic shock starts with a systemic response to infection, a syndrome called sepsis. When this syndrome results in hypotension and organ dysfunction, it is called septic shock. Septic shock may be initiated by gram-positive organisms and fungi, as well as endotoxin-containing Gram-negative organisms. Accordingly, the present definition is not limited to "endotoxin shock."

The phrases "gene amplification" and "gene duplication" are used interchangeably and refer to a process by which multiple copies of a gene or gene fragment are formed in a particular cell or cell line. The duplicated region (a stretch of amplified DNA) is often referred to as "amplicon". Usually, the amount of the messenger RNA (mRNA) produced, i.e., the level of gene expression, also increases in the proportion of the number of copies made of the particular gene expressed.

"Tumor", as used herein, refers to all neoplastic cell growth and proliferation, whether malignant or benign, and all pre-cancerous and cancerous cells and tissues. The terms "cancer" and "cancerous" refer to or describe the physiological condition in mammals that is typically characterized by unregulated cell growth. Examples of cancer include but are not limited to, carcinoma, lymphoma, blastoma, sarcoma, and leukemia. More particular examples of such cancers include breast cancer, prostate cancer, colon cancer, squamous cell cancer, small-cell lung cancer, non-small cell lung cancer, gastrointestinal cancer, pancreatic cancer, glioblastoma, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, liver cancer, bladder cancer, hepatoma, colorectal cancer, endometrial carcinoma, salivary gland carcinoma, kidney cancer, vulval cancer, thyroid cancer, hepatic carcinoma and various types of head and neck cancer.

The term "cytotoxic agent" as used herein refers to a substance that inhibits or prevents the function of cells and/or causes destruction of cells. The term is intended to include radioactive isotopes (e.g. I131, I125, Y90 and Re186), chemotherapeutic agents, and toxins such as enzymatically active toxins of bacterial, fungal, plant or animal origin, or fragments thereof.

A "chemotherapeutic agent" is a chemical compound useful in the treatment of cancer. Examples of chemotherapeutic agents include adriamycin, doxorubicin, epirubicin, 5-fluorouracil, cytosine arabinoside ("Ara-C"), cyclophosphamide, thiotepa, busulfan, cytoxin, taxoids, e.g. paclitaxel (Taxol, Bristol-Myers Squibb

Oncology, Princeton, NJ), and doxorubicin (Taxotere®, Rhone-Poulenc Rorer, Antony, France), taxotere, methotrexate, cisplatin, melphalan, vinblastine, bleomycin, etoposide, ifosfamide, mitomycin C, mitoxantrone, vincristine, vinorelbine, carboplatin, teniposide, daunomycin, carminomycin, aminopterin, dactinomycin, mitomycins, esperamicins (see U.S. Pat. No. 4,675,187), melphalan and other related nitrogen mustards. Also included in this definition are hormonal agents that act to regulate or inhibit hormone action on tumors such as tamoxifen and onapristone.

A "growth inhibitory agent" when used herein refers to a compound or composition which inhibits growth of a cell, especially cancer cell overexpressing any of the genes identified herein, either in vitro or in vivo. Thus, the growth inhibitory agent is one which significantly reduces the percentage of cells overexpressing such genes in S phase. Examples of growth inhibitory agents include agents that block cell cycle progression (at a place other than S phase), such as agents that induce G1 arrest and M-phase arrest. Classical M-phase blockers include the vincas (vincristine and vinblastine), taxol, and topo II inhibitors such as doxorubicin, epirubicin, daunorubicin, etoposide, and bleomycin. Those agents that arrest G1 also spill over into S-phase arrest, for example, DNA alkylating agents such as tamoxifen, prednisone, dacarbazine, mechlorethamine, cisplatin, methotrexate, 5-fluorouracil, and ara-C. Further information can be found in The Molecular Basis of Cancer, Mendelsohn and Israel, eds., Chapter 1, entitled "Cell cycle regulation, oncogens, and antineoplastic drugs" by Murakami et al. (WB Saunders: Philadelphia, 1995), especially p.13.

"Doxorubicin" is an anthracycline antibiotic.

The term "cytokine" is a generic term for proteins released by one cell population which act on another cell as intercellular mediators. Examples of such cytokines are lymphokines, monokines, and traditional polypeptide hormones. Included among the cytokines are growth hormone such as human growth hormone, N-methionyl human growth hormone, and bovine growth hormone; parathyroid hormone; thyroxine; insulin; proinsulin; relaxin; prolaxin; and the like. As used herein, the term cytokine includes proteins from natural sources or from recombinant cell culture and biologically active equivalents of the native sequence cytokines.